

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A recording medium comprising a recorded program and data to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that executes various programs, at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> user as operation instructions to said program execution device, and a display device that displays images outputted from said program execution device, wherein

    said recorded program has a direction maintenance step by which if, along with a motion of any character on ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said display device, based on an operation instruction about a character motion direction, a switching is made from a first scene to a second scene on ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said display device and said operation instruction is maintained, and ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said direction of motion of said character in said second scene is maintained in coordination with ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said direction of motion of ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> character on a map in said first scene at least immediately before said switching is made, said direction of motion of said character in said second scene being maintained for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

2. (currently amended) The recording medium as described in claim 1, wherein if said first scene on ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said display device is to be drawn based on a coordinate transformation based on a first viewpoint and said second scene on ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> said display device is to be drawn based on a coordinate transformation based on a second viewpoint, said direction maintenance step has a computation step that computes ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> direction of motion of said character based on said first viewpoint.

3. (currently amended) A recording medium comprising a program and data recorded thereon and which are to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that

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executes various programs, at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by ~~the-a~~ user as operation instructions to said program execution device, and a display device that displays images output from said program execution device, wherein said program comprises:

a first computation step which determines, from a motion vector of any character on ~~thesaid~~ display device by current operation instructions as seen from a prescribed viewpoint, at least position coordinates of said character,

a viewpoint switching step that switches viewpoints if necessary, based on ~~thesaid~~ position coordinates of said character,

a second computation step which, if a current operation instruction is maintained after said switching step, determines, from ~~thesaid~~ motion vector of said any character by said operation instruction as seen from ~~thesaid~~ previous viewpoint, at least ~~thesaid~~ position coordinates of said character, and

an image drawing step that draws a three-dimensional image of said character based on ~~thesaid~~ current viewpoint, in accordance with ~~thesaid~~ position coordinates of said character obtained by said first computation step and second computation step, and

wherein said second computation step and said image drawing step are repeated for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**4. (currently amended)** A computer-readable and -executable program to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that executes various programs, at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by ~~the-a~~ user as operation instructions to said program execution device, and a display device that displays images outputted from said program execution device, said program comprising:

a direction maintenance step by which if the said program, along with a motion of any character on the said display device based on an operation instruction concerning a character motion -direction, a switching is made from a first scene to a second scene on the said display device and said operation instruction is maintained, the said direction of motion of said character in said second scene is maintained in coordination with the said direction of motion of the said character on a map in said first scene at least immediately before the said switching is made, said direction of motion of said character in said second scene being maintained for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**5. (currently amended)** A computer-readable and -executable program to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that executes various programs, at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by the a user as operation instructions to said program execution device, and a display device that displays images output from said program execution device, the program comprising:

a first computation step which determines, from a motion vector of any character by current operation instructions as seen on the said display device from the said prescribed viewpoint, at least position coordinates of said character;

a viewpoint switching step which switches the said current viewpoint if necessary based on the said position coordinates of said character;

a second computation step which, if a current operation instruction is maintained after said switching step, determines, from the said motion vector of said any character by said operation instruction as seen from the said previous viewpoint, at least the said position coordinates of said character, and

an image drawing step that draws a three-dimensional image of said character based on ~~thesaid~~ current viewpoint, in accordance with ~~thesaid~~ position coordinates of said character obtained by said first computation step and second computation step, and wherein said second computation step and said image drawing step are repeated for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**6. (currently amended) A program execution system comprising:**

a program execution device having a controller that executes various programs; at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by ~~the-a~~ user as operation instructions to said program execution device; a display device that displays images output from said program execution device; and a direction maintenance means which is a program that is operated in said controller of said program execution device, said direction maintenance means if, along with a motion of any character based on an operation instruction concerning a direction of motion of a character on ~~thesaid~~ display device, and a switching is made from a first scene to a second scene on ~~thesaid~~ display device and said operation instruction is maintained, maintaining ~~thesaid~~ direction of motion of said character in said second scene in coordination with ~~thesaid~~ direction of motion of ~~thesaid~~ character on a map in said first scene at least immediately before ~~thesaid~~ switching is made, said direction of motion of said character in said second scene being maintained for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**7. (currently amended) In a program execution system as described in claim 6, wherein said direction maintenance means further comprises:**

a computation means that computes thesaid direction of motion of said character based on said first viewpoint

if said first scene is to be drawn based on a coordinate transformation based on a first viewpoint and said second scene is to be drawn based on a coordinate transformation based on a second viewpoint.

**8. (currently amended) A program execution system comprising:**

a program execution device having a controller, and executing various programs;  
at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by the-a user as operation instructions to said program execution device;  
a display device that displays images outputted from said program execution device; and  
an image processing means configured as program that operates in said controller in said program execution device; wherein

said image processing means includes:

a first computation means that determines, from a motion vector of any character by current operation instructions as seen on thesaid display device from thesaid prescribed viewpoint, at least thesaid position coordinates of said character,

a viewpoint switching means that switches a current viewpoint if necessary based on thesaid position coordinates of said character,

a second computation means that, if said operation instruction is maintained after said switching of viewpoint, determines, from thesaid motion vector of said any character by said operation instruction as seen on thesaid display device from thesaid previous viewpoint, at least thesaid position coordinates of said character, and

an image drawing means that draws a three-dimensional image of said character based on thesaid current viewpoint, in accordance with thesaid position coordinates of said character obtained by said first computation means and second computation means, and

wherein said second computation means and said image drawing means are repeatedly executed for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**9. (currently amended)** A program execution device to which can be connected at least an operation device that outputs operation requests by the-a user as operation instructions and a display device for displaying images, said program execution device comprising:

a direction maintenance means by which if, along with a motion of any character on the display device based on an operation instruction concerning a direction of motion of a character on thesaid display device, a switching is made from a first scene to a second scene on thesaid display device and said operation instruction is maintained, thesaid direction of motion of said character in said second scene is maintained in coordination with thesaid direction of motion of thesaid character on thesaid map in said first scene at least immediately before thesaid switching is made, said direction of motion of said character in said second scene being maintained for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**10. (currently amended)** A program execution device to which can be connected at least an operation device that outputs operation requests by the-a user as operation instructions and a display device for displaying images, the program execution device comprising:

a first computation means that determines, from a motion vector of any character on thesaid display device by current operation instructions as seen on thesaid display device from thesaid prescribed viewpoint, at least position coordinates of said character,

said display device, said second display device viewpoint having associated therewith a second motion coordinate system that differs from said first motion coordinate system,

a second computation step which, if said operation instruction is maintained during and immediately after said viewpoint switching step, determines position coordinates of said character in said second display device viewpoint from a motion vector of said character, said motion vector being determined in said second display device viewpoint by said maintained operation instruction in accordance with said first motion coordinate system, and

an image drawing step that draws a three-dimensional image of said character based on said first or second display device viewpoint; in accordance with the said position coordinates of said character obtained by said first computation step and second computation step, and

wherein said second computation step and said image drawing step are repeated for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user.

**12. (original)** The recording medium as described in claim 11, wherein said motion vector of said character in said second display device viewpoint is determined in accordance with said second motion coordinate system once said maintained operation instruction is terminated.

**13. (currently amended)** A program execution system comprising:

a program execution device having a controller, and executing various programs;

a display device that displays images outputted from said program execution device;

at least one operation device into which are inputted operation requests by the-a user as operation instructions to said program execution device, said operation instructions associated with movements of a character displayed on said display device;

said display device further comprising a first viewpoint in which movements of said character is controlled in accordance with a first movement coordinate system, and a second viewpoint in which movements of said character is controlled in accordance with a second movement coordinate system,

an image processing means configured as a controller program that operates in said controller in said program execution device, wherein said image processing means further comprises:

a first computation means that determines position coordinates of said character in said first display device viewpoint, said position coordinates based on a first motion vector of said character in said first display device viewpoint in accordance with operation instructions,

a viewpoint switching means that switches from said first display device viewpoint to said second display device viewpoint if necessary based on thesaid position coordinates of said character,

a second computation means that determines position coordinates of said character in said second display device viewpoint, said position coordinates based on a second motion vector of said character in said second display device viewpoint in accordance with operation instructions, and

an image drawing means that draws a three-dimensional image of said character in said first or second display device viewpoint, in accordance with thesaid position coordinates of said character obtained by said first computation means and second computation means respectively,

wherein if said operation instruction is maintained during a switch from said first display device viewpoint to said second display device viewpoint, said second motion vector governing movement of said character in said second display device viewpoint is controlled in accordance

with said first movement coordinate system, such that movement of said character is consistent between first and second display device viewpoints while said operation instruction is maintained during and immediately after thesaid switch between said viewpoints, and

wherein said second computation means and said image drawing means are repeatedly executed for as long as said operation instruction is maintained by said user, and  
wherein once said operation instruction is terminated after said switch from said first display device viewpoint to said second display device viewpoint, said second motion vector governing movement of said character in said second display device viewpoint is controlled in accordance with said second movement coordinate system.